

# Underground Storage Tank Remediation Project at Department of Defense Housing Facility, Novato, CA (continued)

**Jim Gibbs**





# Technology Considerations

## ■ Objectives

- Remove adequate mass to make site low risk and allow implementation of remediation by natural attenuation
- Achieve above objective within timeframe of site transfer requirements
- Minimize cost
- Minimize worker health risk



# Low Risk Site Criteria

- Leak stopped/Free product removed
- Adequate site characterization
- Dissolved hydrocarbon plume is not migrating
- No receptors impacted (wells, surface water)
- No significant human health risk
- No significant ecological risk



# Risk-Based Approach

- Evaluate risk to human health using procedures based on ASTM E 1739-95 Standard Guide for Risk-Based Corrective Action Applied at Petroleum Release Sites (RBCA)





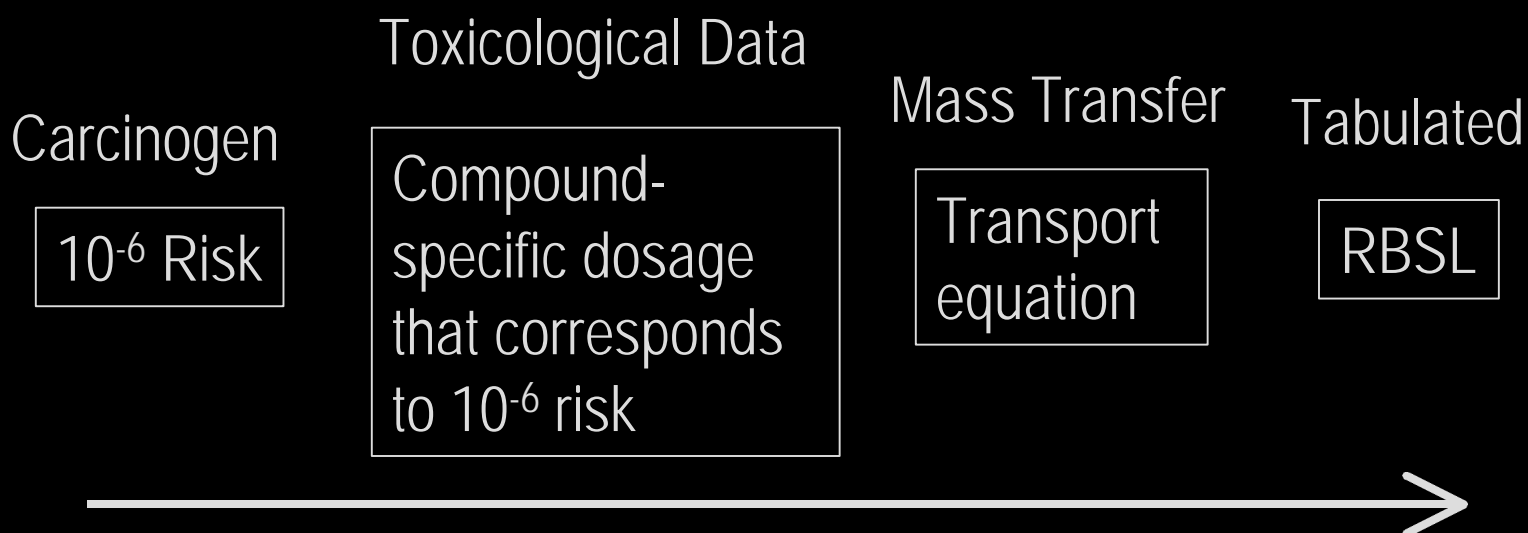
# RBCA - Tiered Risk Evaluation

## ■ Tier 1

- Conservative assumptions applied to all release sites
- No site-specific information used
- Transport equations used to back-calculate Risk-Based Screening Levels (RBSLs) from maximum permissible risk and dosage
- Site concentrations compared to RBSLs

# RBCA Tier 1 Calculation - Example

Performed on each compound for  
each applicable exposure pathway:






# Example Equation for Pathway: Subsurface Soil to Outdoor Air Inhalation




# Example Equation for Pathway: Subsurface Soil to Outdoor Air Inhalation



# Health and Ecological Risk Factors - Pathways and Receptors

## ■ Potential Pathways

- Human Health Risk
  - Volatilization from soil to air
  - Volatilization from groundwater to air
  - Dermal contact
- Ecological Risk
  - Pacheco Creek
  - Storm water runoff system



# Health and Ecological Risk Factors - Pathways and Receptors

## ■ Potential Receptors

- Human
  - Workers
  - Building occupants
  - Agricultural workers? (possible irrigation water use)
- Ecological (complete pathway unlikely)
  - Sensitive biota
  - San Pablo Bay



# Geological Description

- Likely deposit-filled stream bed
- Alluvial deposits
- Surficial fill material
- Interbedded gravels, sands, silts, and clays
- Aquitard encountered at 15 ft
- Bedrock to the east and west

# Typical Soil Lithology



UST Remediation

12b





# Hydrogeological Description

- Groundwater encountered at 7.5 to 13 ft below ground surface (bgs)
- Smear zone within that fluctuation
- Groundwater gradient 0.014 ft/ft
- Groundwater velocity ~0.2 ft/d
- Hydraulic conductivity ~4 ft/d
- Sand content in permeable layer 70 to 90%



# Aquifer and Soil Evaluation

## ■ Aquifer

### – Groundwater sampling

- concentrations of benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes (BTEX); and methyl *tert*-butyl ether (MTBE)
- total dissolved solids (TDS)
- natural attenuation parameters
  - Fe
  - SO<sub>4</sub>
  - NO<sub>3</sub>
  - CH<sub>4</sub>
  - TMB
  - TeMB



# Aquifer and Soil Evaluation

- Aquifer (continued)
  - Pump tests
    - sustainable yield
    - hydraulic conductivity
  - Slug tests
  - Groundwater gradient



# Aquifer Evaluation to Determine Beneficial Use

- US Army demonstrated non-beneficial use aquifer
  - Total dissolved solids (TDS) > 3,000 mg/L
  - Sustained production < 200 gallons per day
- DODHF Novato
  - Groundwater sampling
  - Slug tests
  - Pump test



# Aquifer and Soil Evaluation

## ■ Soil

- Soil sampling
  - concentrations of BTEX and MTBE
  - grain size distribution
  - bulk density
- Continuous coring for lithological data
- Cone Penetrometer study









# Technology Considerations

- Remediation needs
  - Remove free product (if present)
  - Reduce concentrations in groundwater
  - Reduce concentrations in soil



# Reduce Concentrations in Groundwater

- Reduces risk
- Reduces plume migration potential
  - Reduces concentration gradient in groundwater
  - Monitored by quarterly groundwater sampling





# Free Product Removal (if present)

## ■ Bioslurping

- Demonstrated as best available technology for free product removal
- Vacuum enhanced multi-fluid extraction
- Removes recoverable free product
- Enhances biodegradation in vadose zone

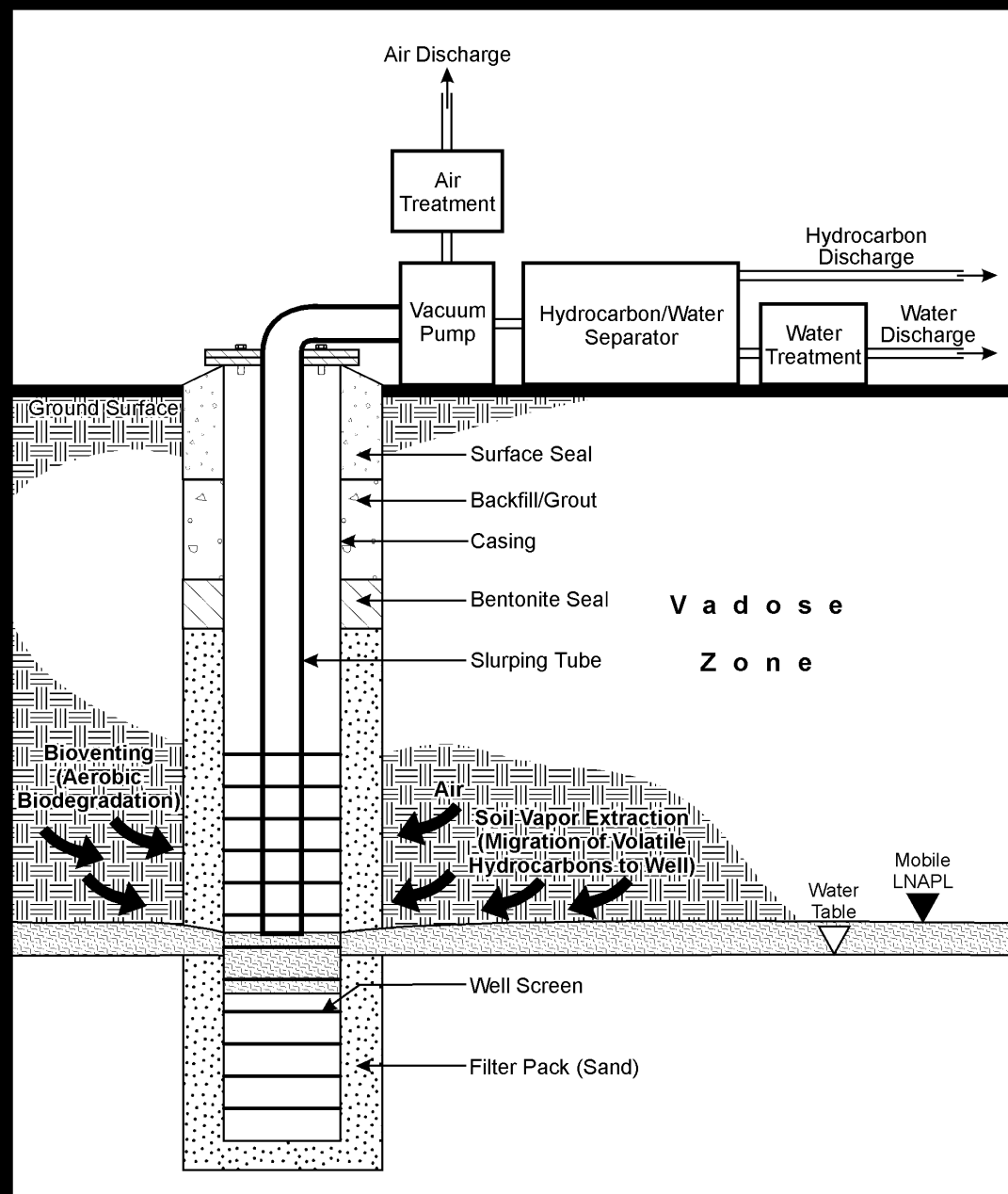


# Bioslurping

- Vacuum pipe inserted into well to withdraw free-floating petroleum and soil vapor
- Enhances lateral migration of fuel into wells for removal
- Enhances biodegradation in soil (by aerating soil)
- Results in fuel, water, and vapor streams

# Bioslurper System

UST Remediation

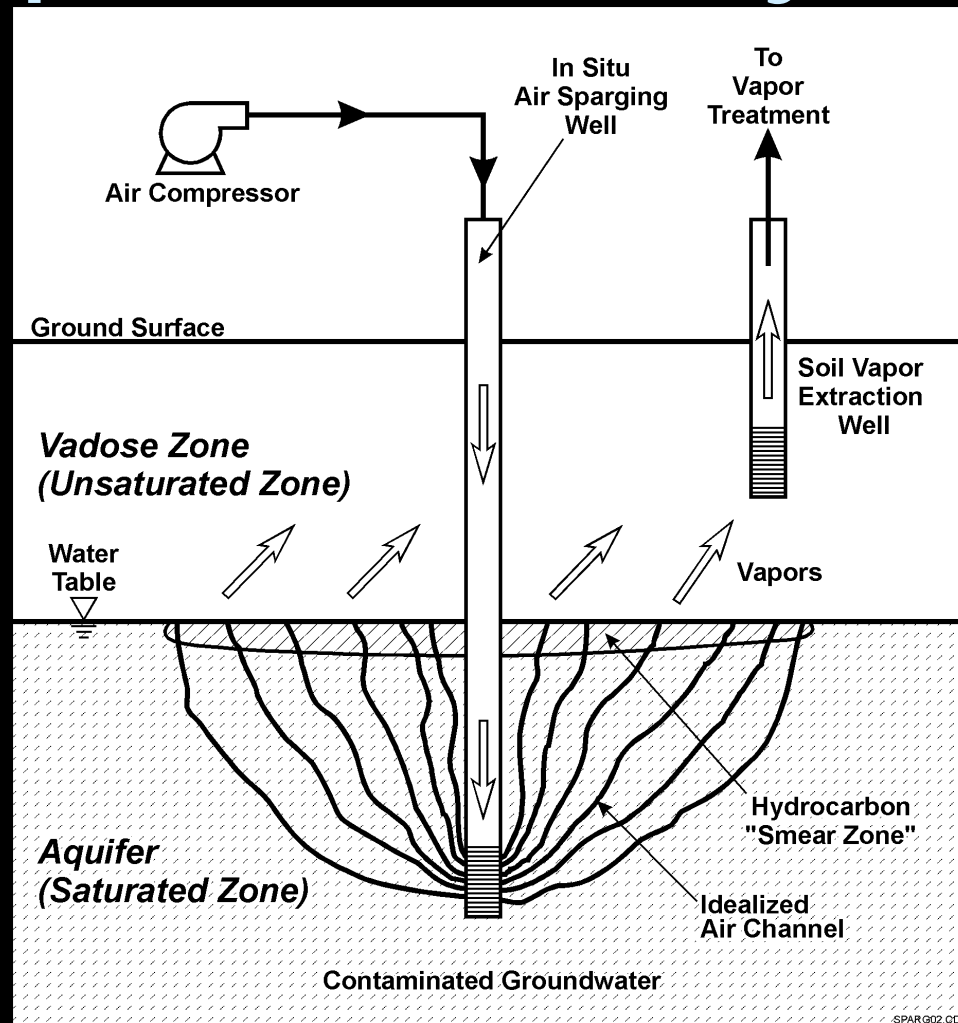




# In Situ Air Sparging (IAS)

- Injection of air under pressure directly into aquifer
- Strips hydrocarbons from groundwater
- Enhances biodegradation in aquifer and in unsaturated soils
- Frequently accompanied by soil vapor extraction (SVE)

# In Situ Air Sparging/ Soil-Vapor Extraction System





# Soil Vapor Extraction (SVE)

- Withdraws vapor from among soil particles
- Enhances volatilization of hydrocarbons from sorbed soil sites
- Conducts vapor to surface for treatment
- Protects against uncontrolled vapor release and migration



# MTBE Plume Characterization

- GeoProbe sampling performed 1997
- GeoProbe sampling performed 1998
- Cone Penetrometer sampling performed 1998
- 5 monitoring wells installed 1998
- 4 temporary piezometers installed 1998
- further investigations under discussion



# MTBE Approach

- Evaluate IAS/SVE system MTBE removal effectiveness
  - stripping likely to be effective initially due to high MTBE concentrations
- Make recommendations for improvement and optimization
  - continue operation
  - expand system
  - select different technology





# Progress Review

- Previous investigations reviewed
- Preliminary investigations completed
  - technology specific
  - Tier 1 risk assessment
  - special site requirements
- Interim remedial action system installed
- baseline sampling completed















UST Reme



33b





UST Remed

34b





















# Exit Strategy

- Demonstrate that site is low risk
- Determine if Remediation by Natural Attenuation (RNA) is likely to be effective alternative
- Implement RNA
  - RNA includes long-term groundwater monitoring
  - Establish concentration trends



# System Expansion

- Implemented if technology effective, but not achieving adequate removal due to scale of systems
- Oversized equipment to enable expansion (if necessary)



# Remedial Action Objectives

- Removal of adequate mass to result in
  - low risk site
  - plume collapse
  - concentrations that can be remediated by RNA with acceptable impact



# Long Term Monitoring

- Implemented in conjunction with remediation by natural attenuation
  - BTEX and MTBE concentrations
  - natural attenuation parameters



# Site Closure

- Expected to be achieved when trends from monitoring and RNA adequately demonstrate that plume is shrinking at an acceptable rate